

Please add the following claim.

9. A method as claimed in Claim 1, further allowing the player to suppress during the session a presentation of the actual score, performance and/or video image to the backfeeding.

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Breslow et al (USP 4,710,873, hereinafter Breslow) in view of Hogan et al (USP 5,657,246, hereinafter Hogan) or Weiss (USP 5,821,983). Independent claims 1 and 6, upon which each of the other rejected claims depend, have been amended in view of this prior art. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection in view of this amendment.

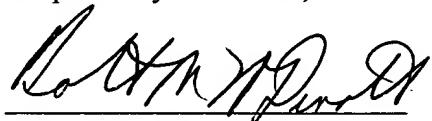
As specifically claimed in amended claims 1 and 6, the method and system of this invention includes a persistent display of the currently high-scoring player in a multi-player game. As is known in the art, the particular configuration of a game display has a substantial effect on the competitive spirit and enthusiasm for the game. As illustrated in the Applicant's FIG. 2, the images of the currently high-scoring player 72, and an overall high-scoring player 74, are prominently displayed. As a player gains the lead, the player knows that his or her video image is displayed on the other players' displays; as a player falls behind from the lead he or she sees someone else's image in the prominent lead-player display location. This personalized visual feedback provides an added sense of competition and enthusiasm for the game that is not provided by the prior art.

Because neither Breslow, nor Hogan, nor Weiss, individually or collectively, teach or suggest displaying a video image of the currently high-scoring player in a prominent position on a display, as specifically taught and claimed by the Applicant, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Breslow in view of Hogan or Weiss.

The Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Breslow in view of Hogan or Weiss, and further in view of Sitrick (USP 4,521,014). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection in view of the remarks above with regard to amended claims 1 and 6, upon which claims 3 and 8 depend.

Because neither Breslow, nor Hogan, nor Weiss, nor Sitrick, individually or collectively, teach or suggest displaying a video image of the currently high-scoring player in a prominent position on a display, as specifically taught and claimed by the Applicant, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claims 3 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Breslow in view of Hogan or Weiss, and further in view of Sitrick.

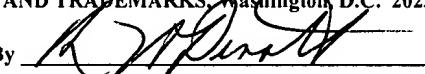
Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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On 27 February 2001 By .